

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 07113

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EEC

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FIVE POWER ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

1. CHARGE TOOK OCCASION OF INTRODUCTORY CALL ON BELGIAN DEPUTY PERMREP ROBINET TO DISCUSS RESULTS COREPER MEETING AUGUST 6 RE PROPOSED FIVE POWER ECONOMIC SUMMIT AND BELGIAN VIEWS THEREON. ROBINET CONFIRMED REPORTS FROM OTHER SOURCES (SEPTEL) THAT MEETING AGREED (A) THERE SHOULD BE DISCUSSION IN ADVANCE OF SUMMIT WITHIN EC FRAMEWORK OF POSITIONS WHICH THREE EC PARTICIPANTS IN CONFERENCE WOULD TAKE, AND THAT THREE SHOULD, IN PRINCIPLE, BE ABLE TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF COMMUNITY AS WHOLE, AND (B) FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ISSUES TO BE BROUGHT UP AT CONFERENCE SHOULD TAKE PLACE DURING INFORMAL MEETING EC FINANCE MINISTERS IN VENICE AUGUST 24.

2. SPEAKING STRICTLY FROM BELGIAN VIEWPOINT, ROBINET SAID GOB WOULD PROBABLY PREFER CONFERENCE COVER VARIETY OF ASPECTS OF CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION OF WHICH MONETARY PROBLEM AND EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM WOULD BE ONE BUT NOT ONLY FOCUS
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OF DISCUSSION. HE ALSO SAID THAT, WHILE SMALL EC MEMBERS

FULLY UNDERSTAND AND CONCUR IN NEED TO KEEP CONFERENCE TO SMALL SIZE, THEY ARE UNHAPPY WITH WAY APPARENT DECISION WAS TAKEN TO HOLD CONFERENCE AND WILL INSIST THAT THEIR VIEWS BE HEARD AND INCORPORATED INTO POSITIONS BIG THREE EC MEMBERS TAKE ON SUBSTANCE.

3. CHARGE ASKED WHAT THEIR POSITION WOULD BE IF ITALY, AS CURRENT COUNTRY IN CHAIR FOR COUNCIL, WERE TO PROPOSE ENLARGEMENT OF GROUP TO INCLUDE EC PRESIDENCY COUNTRY. ROBINET REPLIED THAT SUCH PROPOSAL WOULD PROBABLY CREATE NEW SITUATION IN WHICH OTHER EXCLUDED COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE TO REASSESS THEIR VIEWS ON WHICH COUNTRIES SHOULD ATTEND CONFERENCE, AND IMPLIED THAT SUCH PROPOSAL WOULD NOT BE PARTICULARLY WELCOME. MORRIS

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